

Applicant: William Galbraith

Application No.: 10/804,592

Amendment to Office Action dated February 18, 2010

Docket No.: P-6007/1 (102-585 RCE III)

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising an epoxy-activated insoluble support having a ligand attached thereto without being exposed to albumin, said ligand being bindable to phosphate-buffered saline diluted albumin, wherein said ligand consists of bromosulfophthalein or a salt of bromosulfophthalein or ester of bromosulfophthalein, ~~said ligand having been dissolved in an alkaline solvent, and~~ wherein said ligand is attached to said epoxy-activated insoluble support via an epoxy linkage, wherein said epoxy-activated insoluble support is supported in a container.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the container is selected from the group consisting of columns, bottles, filter plates, dishes, and plate inserts.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the support is selected from the group consisting of a support for a column, a support for a micro titre plate, column packing, a surface plate, a filter plate, a matrix, an affinity cartridge, and a membrane.

7. - 54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said epoxy-activated insoluble support is agarose.

56. (Canceled)

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57. (Canceled).

58. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein after said ligand has been attached to said insoluble support, any remaining active groups have been blocked via exposure to a compound having a primary amine and a primary alcohol.

59. (New) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein said compound having a primary amine and a primary alcohol comprises ethanolamine.

60. (New) The apparatus of claim 59, wherein said ethanolamine has a pH of 8.0.